

THE  
BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

VOL. XXVIII.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 1843.

No. 5.

OBSERVATIONS ON SEMINAL AND OTHER DISCHARGES FROM  
THE URETHRA, WITH ILLUSTRATIVE CASES.

[Concluded from page 39.]

How the lunar caustic acts in extinguishing the morbid sensibility of the mucous surfaces I cannot tell, but of its virtues in this respect few surgeons can be ignorant. Every day we apply it to modify the painful irritability of ulcers, as well as that of certain affections of mucous membranes.

If the affection has been caused by a gonorrhœal or gleet discharge, the treatment must be the same as in the former instance.

If it has been caused by stricture, we must first restore the canal to its natural diameter; and it may be that the morbid state of the mucous membrane behind the stricture will gradually improve when the obstacle to the passage of the urine is removed, and that with the cessation of that morbid state may also cease those spermatic discharges which have been caused by it. But this conclusion is not inevitable; the obstacle to the passage of the urine may be removed, but the morbid condition of the posterior part of the canal, which has resulted from it, may persist: so may the specific discharges. Then the efficacy of the lunar caustic can be at once demonstrated; and a single proper and sufficient application of the remedy, with the precautions already indicated, will, in most cases, promptly cure the disease of the urethra as well as that of the spermatic organs.

If the discharges be determined by irritation of the anus, or the rectum, appropriate means must be used to cure the intestinal disorder; and it may be that when that has ceased the spermatic disorder will also cease, as in Case 6. But, as in Case 5, it may persist, because a distinct irritation may have been determined in the urethra by the long-continued action of that of the intestinal canal; and to dissipate that, recourse must be had to the lunar caustic, under the same restrictions as have been already pointed out.

Such is a general view of this very distressing class of diseases—and, as I think, the appropriate remedy—and the illustrative cases will follow. How many cases I have treated in the last eleven years I cannot exactly say. I have notes of twenty-five cases, but they have all been treated within the last five years. At first I had intended to detail the whole, but as their general features are a good deal alike, I have prefer-

red giving a few which sufficiently clearly represent the class, and will save the time of the reader.

CASE I.—H. J., æt. 22, applied to me under the following circumstances: he had had, for some time, a good deal of trouble about his heart; his stomach did not properly perform its functions; his bowels were irregular, and he had lost flesh and strength. At times he had considerable cerebral excitability, when he could not bear the slightest noise without much distress. He had been under treatment for these complaints; had, at different times, applied various means of counter-irritation in the region of the heart, and, for a long time, had used only farinaceous food. Under this plan of treatment some of his symptoms had been relieved, but others had been aggravated, and his strength still further declined. After examining the heart, which afforded no evidence of anything beyond functional disturbance, I was struck with the apparent languor, the downcast, unquiet look, and hypochondriacal expression of the patient, and my suspicion was at once awakened as to the cause of this state of things. I requested his mother, who accompanied him, to leave the room; when I told him at once that the cause of his present discomfort was the abuse of his sexual organs. At first he hesitated, but only for a moment, and then admitted that to a certain extent my impression was correct. When further pressed, he said that, living in the country, and being a good deal alone, about four years before he began to addict himself to masturbation; that the habit soon took such firm hold of him that scarcely a day occurred in which he did not recur to it at least twice; that the emission, after a time, took place with incomplete erection; and that at the time he consulted me he could not hold an ordinary conversation with a young woman without a continuous discharge of spermatic fluid. The consequences which soon followed the indulgence of this habit were, first—obstinate constipation, then stomach derangement, lassitude, and very distressing palpitation of the heart, with profound hypochondriasis. Several medical men were consulted, and the treatment to which I have already referred was employed. After a long persistence in this plan of treatment, suspicion was awakened in the mind of the attendant as to the possibility of the symptoms being produced by disturbance of the sexual organs. He was interrogated on this point, and a slight admission was made by the patient. He was then cautioned as to the consequences of such a habit, and it was suggested to him to “go with women.” Into the question of the morality of this advice I need not enter, but in other respects the advice was not prudent. It is almost certain that in the state of the sexual organs induced by excessive masturbation, erection would be incomplete, emission almost immediate, and connection impracticable; mental depression would be increased, and disgust of life more decided. The advice, however, was followed in this case, and, for the first time in his life, he proceeded to the haunts of infamy. Connection was attempted, but without success; and after resorting to those places five or six times, he abandoned them “quite tired of life.” I assured him that all his sufferings were owing to his indulgence in this baneful habit; and that if he persisted in

it, they would be further aggravated; and that the first object was to refrain from the practice, and that this depended entirely upon himself; that even if he could carry his resolution into effect, it was very likely that involuntarily, in some shape or other, the discharge might for some time continue. I directed him to try his resolution for a month, and to let me see him at the end of that time. When he came again, he said he had abstained entirely, but that matters were not much better; that nine times, during the night, there had been involuntary discharges; that on two occasions they had happened during the time he was speaking to women; and that several times there had been involuntary discharges during straining at stool.

I now examined the sexual organs, which were extremely lax, the structure of the penis offering no feeling of elasticity when pressed between the fingers, and the scrotum almost as thin as a piece of linen cloth; the testicles hanging very low. Upon proceeding to examine the urethra, the same cowardly dread of pain which is common in people with these habits was strongly shown. A bougie was carefully passed for the purpose of ascertaining whether exaggerated sensibility was present at any part of the canal: on arriving some distance beyond the curvature, he regularly screamed out, and the instrument was quietly withdrawn. I now determined to blunt the sensibility at this point by applying upon it lunar caustic; this was done on the following day. That day week I saw him again; his spirits were much improved; a more complete erection of the penis than had been known for upwards of a year had occurred on the morning he saw me; and with the exception of the fifth night no emission had taken place. There was a slight mucous discharge, and there had been smarting when the urine passed, for a couple of days after the application of the caustic, but it was rapidly lessening. In three weeks afterwards I heard from him again, but did not see him: there had been two more discharges during the night, but he was sensible of increasing energy of the sexual organs. The impression on my mind was, that a second application of the nitrate would be necessary in this case, more especially because I was rather more chary of the caustic in this case than usual, from an apprehension that, from his great morbid excitability, there might be some after trouble; however, there was none; and as I have not again heard from him, it is fair to suppose all has gone on well.

CASE II.—I was consulted by W. R., aged 35, who was suffering from the effects of frequent involuntary discharges from the urethra. The account he gave of himself was as follows:—some years before the period when he consulted me, he went to Russia, and, being much addicted to women, he there formed an intimacy with a woman of rank, whose propensities in that direction were still more decided than his own. They lived together many months, and indulged in the most unbridled excesses, until his health began to suffer. Becoming sensible of the consequences of this course of life, he determined to break off the connection and set out for England. This resolution he carried into effect. For a time he lived carefully, and his general health improved; but with

amended health came desires for a new attachment ; and as this was not difficult to accomplish, a connection was formed, and with the same results as in Russia. The connection continued ; change of air was tried ; vows of greater continence were made and broken ; when ultimately the connection terminated, and with broken health, and some suspicion of pulmonary disease, he was again set free.

It was at this time I saw him. He was about the middle stature, but somewhat emaciated. The digestive functions were much deranged ; the voice was faltering ; the expression of countenance was indicative of great mental depression, and it appeared that his presages were of the most gloomy character. His respiration was quick ; his pulse irritable ; his food ill-digested, his bowels constipated, his urinary organs irritable ; he was obliged to make water twice or three times in the night, and in the morning a number of granular bodies could be detected in it. He slept ill ; sometimes he was awoken by distressing dreams, sometimes by involuntary discharges. I found, further, that although he had ceased to see the lady—his former mistress—a daily correspondence was kept up ; if possible, more injurious than their former close connection. Every letter of hers he read induced a seminal discharge—every letter he wrote to her had a like effect.

My first request was to break off the correspondence. This was done, and with much advantage. Still he did not usually go to stool without pressing out of the vesiculæ seminales a certain quantity of spermatic fluid, and the granular particles were rarely absent from the urine. It seemed a useless waste of time to try to regulate the functions which were deranged, while the cause of that derangement still continued. I therefore passed a bougie along the urethra, and I found that though sensitive everywhere, it was especially so at a point in the neighborhood of the prostate. For the two following days I introduced the bougie, and let it remain in the canal for a quarter of an hour, with a view to accustom the canal to the presence of a foreign body, before the caustic instrument was introduced. I then applied the caustic cautiously, and no great inconvenience was complained of. The caustic was applied about two o'clock ; he remained on the sofa until five ; when, instead of taking a light dinner at home, as he was ordered, he adjourned to his club, which was a few doors off, and, whether from exposure to cold, or other cause, he had no sooner sat down to table than he fainted. The nearest medical man was sent for, and when I arrived I found him pretty well again. He made water, and was put into a warm bed, and the next morning was in his usual state, but there was a considerable discharge from the urethra ; and from the moment that discharge abated, the spermatic discharge abated also ; and in the succeeding three weeks the discharge had only occurred twice—once in the first week, and once in the next fortnight. When every hope of all going on well was strongest, pulmonary symptoms became more decided. He was sent to Hastings, but the climate of that place had no power to arrest its progress. He returned, and died, as nearly as may be, free from his original source of trouble.

CASE III.—A. B., a young man of 24, was brought to me by Mr.



Joseph in a state of settled melancholy. He complained of pain in the groins, the perineum and the loins, complete relaxation of the genital organs, a swimming and noise in the head, and a perfect inability to use the slightest effort. I at once saw, from the history of the case, and the cast of his countenance, that seminal discharges or excesses were at the bottom of his sufferings; but the probabilities were in favor of other modes of excitement than sexual intercourse. I charged him with masturbation, and, with a little hesitation, he confessed it. He had carried it to a very considerable extent, oftener twice than once a day, when at last he observed that no complete erection took place. Recourse was then had to such books as are advertised daily for the cure of sexual debility. He submitted to the treatment recommended by their authors so long as his money held out, but he derived no benefit from it. The dark pictures drawn in their publications of the consequences of this pernicious habit still further impressed his mind with a conviction of impotency. He abstained lately from masturbation, but the frequency of the discharges was not lessened by it. By night and by day they still occurred, and, to use his own expression, "life seemed leaking away."

A bougie was carefully introduced: a very sensitive point of the canal was discovered, about an inch in front of the neck of the bladder. Upon this point the caustic was immediately applied. He did not complain of much pain from the operation, and at once proceeded to his ordinary occupation. I saw him at the end of four days from the application of the caustic, when his spirits were much improved. He had a thin discharge, which had come on in the course of the evening of the day on which I used the remedy; it had been increasing up to that day, but it seemed to have attained its acme. When he first made water there was some smarting, but it soon abated. From this time I did not again see him, but I learned from Mr. Joseph that he rapidly recovered, and completely; and that he is at present quite free from any disorder of the sexual organs.

CASE IV.—E. G., aged 24, a medical man, consulted me some time since for a similar affection: but altogether his case was the most severe I have ever seen. His person was much emaciated; his voice faltering; his respiration hurried; his heart palpitating; his stomach unable to bear any but the simplest food; the abdominal cavity tormented with flatulence, and his bowels constipated.

He stated, that during his school days he had addicted himself to masturbation, and that for some time his excesses in this respect were great, but that ultimately he acquired the power to resist the inclination, and afterwards it was only resumed occasionally. But the irritation which had been set up continued, and induced nocturnal emissions, which had amounted, when I first saw him, to sixteen in four weeks. Their effect was most distressing; they produced respiratory trouble so intense in its character as to resemble a paroxysm of asthma. The trouble to the circulation was not much less remarkable, and the voice was broken and faltering. After twenty-four hours these severe symptoms abated to some extent, so as to allow him to attend to his business. It was not without

much effort that he could allow me to examine the urethra, so much had his moral courage been prostrated. However, it was at last accomplished, but although a bougie was introduced without any approach to violence, syncope followed. Beyond the curvature the pain became excessive and unbearable, and the instrument was withdrawn. On the second day from this examination he came to have the caustic applied, but in the interval there had been an involuntary nocturnal discharge. I applied the caustic, and the discomfort experienced on this occasion was much less than that upon the simple examination on the last. In a fortnight he came to me in improved spirits, and stated that he had felt himself so much better that he had undertaken the situation of assistant to a practitioner in the country. He stated that the improvement had been in every respect remarkable, and during the fortnight he had only two emissions, and that the after trouble had been much less severe. He was anxious that the caustic should be applied a second time, before he went into the country. To this I objected, because it was impossible at that time to estimate the effect of the first. I advised him, if necessary, to come up in a month. He did so, and was in all respects much improved, but he said he did not feel himself equal to the knocking a but of a country practice, and that riding hard was particularly unsuited to him. During the month there was an increased vigor of the sexual organs, and there had been only three involuntary discharges. It was evident that, though much abated, the evil still existed, and I therefore determined to make a second application of the caustic. On this occasion none of the inconvenience of the first introduction of the bougie was experienced; the morbid sensibility was much blunted, and the remedy was easily applied. From this time I can give no account of the case. I did not know his address at the time, nor any of his friends, and I have consequently made no inquiry about him. But as there was reason to suspect disease of the chest, it is very possible he may be dead. Still, so far as it goes, it is interesting, as showing the very formidable consequences of such discharges, as well as the striking effects of lunar caustic as a remedy when they are involuntary.

CASE V.—A young man was placed under my care for disease of the rectum; characterized by occasional intense irritation, followed by hemorrhage, sometimes alarming in extent. An examination showed a tumor as large as a small walnut, which, though attached within the external sphincter, was protruded under this effort. This tumor was erectile in structure, very rough in its surface, and in every crevice were numbers of ascarides; and it was through their agency that the irritation seemed to be developed, so as to provoke hemorrhage. When this irritation was great, and this was at least once in twenty-four hours, it induced a discharge of spermatic fluid. In this case the treatment was clearly marked out, and there was a fair ground for supposing that when the irritation within the rectum had ceased, the spermatic discharges would also cease. A ligature was placed around the tumor, and the irritation within the rectum was cured: but although what was conceived to be the cause of the spermatic discharge had ceased, the discharge had not. Neither, in two

months afterwards, had it shown any disposition to do so ; for in the previous twenty-eight days it had happened thirteen times, sometimes during sleep, sometimes during the day. Whatever may have been the original exciting cause, it was now clear that some one still existed. The canal of the urethra was examined, and great morbid sensibility was detected beyond the curvature. Caustic was at once applied over the part ; it occasioned spasmodic contraction of the rectum, which continued for two days, and then disappeared. On the two or three following occasions of passing the urine, there was a good deal of smarting, and there was rather a profuse, thinnish discharge, at one time streaked with blood, which did not completely disappear until the eleventh day.

From the time of applying the caustic until the ninth week, there had been only two involuntary discharges ; and when I saw him, not long ago, he was quite free from disease.

CASE VI.—T. G., aged 50, had long resided within the tropics, where he had suffered from frequent attacks of dysentery, and other varieties of intestinal disturbance, which ultimately caused very distressing inconvenience in the rectum, in the form of piles, and afterwards fissure of the anus. Means had been employed to relieve this state of things, but with no great success ; and after some time, spermatic discharges, unaccompanied by much excitement, and almost always involuntary, occurred to complicate the case, and distress the patient. In this state he arrived in England, when I was consulted. I at first directed my attention to the disease of the rectum ; the bowels were carefully regulated, the internal piles were much improved, and after a time ceased to give any trouble, under the daily pressure of a bougie, smeared with mercurial ointment and extract of belladonna, and rather unexpectedly the fissure got well also.

During the course of the treatment no sensible improvement was observed in the affection of the sexual organs ; but when the trouble in the rectum was got the better of, he went to Brighton, where he stayed some weeks. Gradually he became sensible of increasing sexual energy, and a decreasing frequency of spermatic discharges. No special treatment was directed upon the urethra, and he has been free from any uneasiness in that quarter for several months.

I have been unwilling to occupy more space than was absolutely necessary for the bare illustration of the subject, and therefore it is that I have given the details of only six cases, and that principally for the purpose of more directly calling the attention of the profession to the matter. At the risk of being considered tedious, I will, however, again direct attention to the more important points connected with these affections.

1st. It is necessary that the habits which have led to those discharges should be discontinued ; any means will be powerless if the practice be persevered in.

2d. When the primary cause of the affection has ceased, it is necessary to examine the urethra with an exploring instrument : and for this purpose I prefer an elastic catheter. The point where the pain is most acute must be accurately noted. The instrument must then be passed

on carefully until urine passes along it. Observe how far it has penetrated, and having noted this, you must arrange your caustic apparatus so that it shall not reach so far by an inch, because the prostatic portion of the canal is not commonly implicated in the irritation. The point upon which the caustic is to be applied is, as near as practicable, about the region of the orifices of the ejaculatory ducts.

It may be asked, why pass the instrument on to the neck of the bladder at all, and why state that an inch in front of the neck of the bladder is the point beyond which the caustic instrument shall not penetrate? Why, again, the spot where acute pain is indicated, during the passage of the bougie, may not be regarded as the proper place for applying the caustic? In many persons the urethra is very sensitive, and the patient complains so frequently, that a little difficulty is experienced in deciding with that test; but when you have ascertained that from the orifice of the urethra to the neck of the bladder is seven inches and a half, and when you further find that in the passage of the bougie the most acute pain was experienced at a little more than six inches from the orifice, you can then, with much confidence, cauterize the space between the sixth and seventh inches, satisfied that the orifices of the ejaculatory ducts will not escape. It may be thought by some persons that all these precautions are unnecessary: this may be true; but off-hand surgery I dislike; and if in one case, by the neglect of such attention, I cauterized the neck of the bladder, and in another case applied the caustic entirely in front of the seat of mischief, my conscience would not acquit me of blame.

The foregoing precautions having been taken, the caustic must be exposed, and slightly revolved along the floor of the urethra for half a minute, without fear of harm, and rarely does it excite much pain—very rarely, indeed, does the patient complain of it. A few days ago I passed a bougie very gently along the urethra of a young man, but it produced syncope. When the caustic was applied a few days afterwards, the morbid sensibility was immediately blunted. Usually a smarting is experienced when the urine passes along the urethra, after the caustic is used, but it rarely continues troublesome over twenty-four hours. Before that time, usually, a thinnish discharge comes on, which may be profuse, and may be, though very unfrequently, streaked with blood. After a few days it begins to abate, and by the time it has ceased the change for the better in the patient's condition seems strikingly manifest. It is always necessary to guard the patient against impatience, because four or five weeks will, in some cases, pass, before the beneficial effects of the remedy become clearly evident; and this is the more necessary, because he looks with intense anxiety to the result; and sometimes it happens that a single discharge, after the application of the caustic, will dash the cup of hope from his lips, and induce the most gloomy forebodings. I may again repeat what I have said before, that I have never applied too much caustic, but I have more than once failed by using too little; and much experience is necessary to apply the proper dose. However, it is better to err on the safe side, until experience shall have given confidence in the

use of the remedy. I have scarcely ever had recourse to a second application until five or six weeks have passed, and given the assurance that the first has been insufficient.

Since the publication of the first part of this paper, I have been painfully impressed with the conviction that the evil is more widely spread than I had before conceived, and that it will not be largely alleviated by the means I have adopted for advocating the use of a particular remedy. Almost every morning I have had several applicants for relief, but with two or three exceptions they have been either medical men or medical students. The pages of a strictly medical journal do not meet the eyes of the great mass of sufferers, and they rarely apply to medical men for relief, from a feeling of degradation which, they conceive, attaches to their situation, and I apprehend that, in a large number of instances, they do not resort personally to those irregular practitioners to be found in all parts of the town, who eke out a disgraceful existence by administering medicines to patients whom they have never seen, and whom, most probably, they never benefit.

In the course of the last few days, I have received many anonymous letters from patients expressing their complete inability to make themselves known to any human being; and requesting me to inform them, through the present communication, whether they could use the remedy themselves. My answer to all is the same; I cannot sympathize with such *mauvaise honte*. If it be desirable to be cured, it is desirable to take proper means to obtain it. I cannot sanction the use of such a remedy as I have recommended by any other than a medical man; and I cannot advise the use of a lunar-caustic injection.—*London Med. Gazette*.

---

#### INOCULATION WITH THE VENOM OF RATTLESNAKES.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

In the work called *Life in Mexico*, recently published, the fair author gives the following account:

“We have just been hearing a curious circumstance connected with poisonous reptiles, which I have heard for the first time. Here, and all along the coast, the people are in the habit of inoculating themselves with the poison of the rattlesnake, which renders them safe from the bite of all venomous animals. The person to be inoculated is pricked with the tooth of the serpent, on the tongue, in both arms, and on various parts of the body; and the venom is introduced into the wounds. An eruption comes out, which lasts a few days. Ever after, these persons can handle the most venomous snakes with impunity; can make them come by calling them; have great pleasure in fondling them; and the bite of these persons is poisonous! You will not believe this, but we have the testimony of seven or eight respectable merchants to the fact. A gentleman who breakfasted here, this morning, says that he has been vainly endeavoring to make up his mind to submit to the operation, as he is very much exposed where he lives, and is obliged to travel a great deal on the coast;

and when he goes on these expeditions, he is always accompanied by his servant, an inoculated negro, who has the power of curing him should he be bit, by sucking the poison from the wound. He also saw this negro cure the bite given by an inoculated Indian boy to a white boy with whom he was fighting, and who was the stronger of the two. The stories of the Eastern jugglers, and their power over these reptiles, may perhaps be accounted for in this way. I cannot say that I should like to have so much snaky nature transferred into my composition, nor to live amongst people whose bite is venomous."

*Remarks.*—In reading the foregoing I was very much struck with the novelty of the relation. This kind of inoculation is altogether new to me, and I can hardly give credence to it, from the circumstance that such a practice has never been stated to the world before. If the statement be true, why has it been kept a secret so long? There is one thing quite remarkable, that the *venom* of a rattlesnake can be introduced into the system by inoculation and not prove fatal, as well as when bitten by the serpent. There appears to be something worthy of particular notice to know how such cases are treated when inoculated. Here, an important field is open for remark and close observation relative to all subjects of this character. It is hoped that more attention may be paid to its merits, and other facts obtained to substantiate its truth. It seems amazing strange that a person can be inoculated "on the tongue, in both arms, and on various parts of the body," with the venom, and only an eruption comes out, and lasts but a few days. Why does it not operate so when the person is bitten? Why does not the inoculated person die, when the bite of this one is fatal to another? To have the venom prove innocuous in the one case, and with such mischievous consequences in the other, is a paradox in toxicology, which is very difficult to explain. If there be any one who can elucidate its theory upon philosophical principles, he would confer a great favor to the community by doing so. R. C.

*Boston, February 11, 1843.*

#### DR. HAMILTON'S VALEDICTORY.

[At the close of the lectures at the Geneva Medical College, it devolved upon the professor of surgery, Dr. F. H. Hamilton, of Rochester, N. Y., to deliver a valedictory discourse; which, at the request of the graduates, has been published. Dr. Hamilton is always to the point: there is no unnecessary circumlocution; no labored attempt at fine writing, but a judicious mode of expressing sentiments that are excellent and well timed. After picturing the difficulties of finding a location for professional business, and explaining the perplexities, and their origin, which a young physician is compelled to contend with, he gives a graphic description of an order of medical men with whom all are familiar.]

There is a tribe of rolling, gypseying physicians, men often of the most promising talents and most elevated professional attainments, who never stay long enough in any place to gain a residence, but are genuine

cosmopolites. They leave as soon as they become convinced that their Utopian expectations are not to be realized. For, if they are not at once overwhelmed with patronage, they are discouraged, and look with unfeigned surprise upon the incomprehensible stupidity of all who can neither see nor appreciate the difference between medical science and charlatanism. These men have never read or have wrongly apprehended the first pages of a physician's life; and some will not learn what are the reasonable and inevitable difficulties which all for a time encounter, until they have frittered away the vigor of their years, and, by disuse, wasted and withered their original talents. Such are they who, with empirics, the scum of our profession, generally constitute the excess in any community, and will always float off in due time, leaving a just complement.

I would not say, that a place might not present, nearly or quite destitute of physicians, in which your duty or interest might prompt you to locate; but I caution you, earnestly, against making its being a "vacancy" the sole or chief ground of preference. You cannot estimate your future patronage, success or contentment, by mathematical rules—by counting the people and figuring their ratio to the physicians. The ability or disposition of the inhabitants to pay is to be reckoned—the hazards to your own health—the chances that competition will be introduced, where none exists, and that it will diminish where the supply exceeds the demand—the danger of rusting without friction; and, also, you are to consider your own adaptation to the character of the community, from your previous habits and education. It is not to be denied, that in this respect men of equal talents and professional acquirements greatly differ. Some being educated to a sort of square and open frankness, and delighting in a rusticity of dress and manner which suits well the plain, but honest, common-sense farmer. While others, from their early associations, have contracted the guarded and more cunning policy of the more fashionable society; with a polish and *naïveté* which alone could give them access to the most aristocratic circles. Whoever has duly weighed all these points is prepared to divine for himself, better than another may for him, whether the auspices are favorable, and if these are the shores upon which fate has decreed the temple of his fame shall ascend, or whether he must again loose his halser and put to sea, in pursuit of better lands and happier omens.

[Dr. H. discusses the advantages and disadvantages of medical partnerships, and it is appropriate to give extensive publicity to the views of a gentleman who is experienced in what is denominated worldly wisdom—premising, that we have rarely known medical co-partnerships to terminate pleasantly and to the mutual benefit of the parties.]

We are often asked by young men just entering the profession, what advantages may be expected from a partnership, and whether we would not advise a connection with some older practitioner, for a few years, until the practice had become familiar. This is a question so frequently submitted, and, as we think, of such vital importance, that it may justly claim a careful consideration.

The objects which a partnership in our profession usually propose are



manifold. First—the acquisition of confidence, or stability of opinion; which it is supposed will grow from the certainty of receiving the countenance and endorsement of the senior partner in all cases. Second—familiarity with forms and faces of disease, as the necessary result of merely seeing a larger amount, and a greater variety; also, a promptness of diagnosis, and accuracy of practice, as derived from the daily clinical instruction of an experienced teacher. Third—reputation is to be borrowed from a respectable alliance. Fourth—the profits are to be greater. Fifth—the whole “ride,” with all its revenue, is promised in a few years to this duly authorized successor!

This is all fair—fair as a summer's sun, and pleasant as a morning dream—and if all, or the half, may be attained by a partnership, the man must be sadly at war with his own interest who does not embark in it. But let us look at this matter again. First—how is “confidence or stability of opinion” to be acquired, by resting on the opinions of another? Do the muscles gain strength by the use of crutches? Does the infant learn to walk by being carried? Does the timid soldier become bold and daring, while resting behind rocky ramparts, which might endure more than a Trojan siege? Mark the man who has spent the first years of practice under the protection of a senior; during which period his habits, modes of examining, thinking and acting, were formed and established; and if, as is often the case, he has avoided responsibility almost wholly, he is and ever will continue a cowardly, timid, indecisive practitioner; and the dread of responsibility will keep him shivering and faltering during life. Such men are unfitted for all dangerous or actual service, and are qualified only to practise as bed-side nurses, or compounders of medicine. They may, with caution, lurk along the shore, when the winds are low and the sky unclouded; but can never venture forth with boldness, to rescue those who are rudely rocked by the tempestuous winds, when the storm and the night are dark. Second—whether he shall become more familiar with the features and diagnosis of disease, will all depend upon the opportunities which shall be presented, and the manner in which they are improved. The experience of the fathers is certainly of value, and their instructions are always to be sought; but, believe me, *many* old men get partners, not to instruct them, but to release themselves, especially from the onus of collecting, and office attendance, drug-mixing and book-keeping; and in nine cases out of ten, you become mere drudges—convenient waiters. You may not visit patients abroad, because your services are needed at home; and you seldom leave the mortar and pill-board, except upon the most unenviable errand of “dunning” doubtful creditors; affording an excellent opportunity to receive insults and practise patience. Yet, it is but a poor school of discipline and drill, for the practice of medicine. Third—“reputation is to be gained,” and insults and drudgery are small ills, compared with the benefits which are to result in this view of the alliance! Are you aware, young gentlemen, how completely you are placed, by such connection, in the hands of the senior partner? By inuendoes, slyly given, he can destroy all confidence in you, even before a suspicion had arisen of his treachery; especially

as the world are ready to believe that his interest must prompt him rather to exaggerate than to disparage your merits ; but they forget how even pecuniary interest, as well as strict justice, are often sacrificed to private feelings.

If it is your better fortune to be associated with an honest man, who aims always to advance your reputation, and to link your interest inseparably with his own, you have yet to contend with the mortification of being often refused, when your services are tendered. The rich refuse to receive the man whose services are not asked ; and the poor are even more jealous—regarding it as a most unjust intimation, that pay is not expected. All this tends to prejudice the community against you ; and while you remain thus circumstanced, you are chained and fettered, and you might as well hope to scale the heavens, as to rise above a humble mediocrity in your profession.

But again—yours may be the base ambition to accumulate wealth, rather than reputation ; and to this end you have examined the books, and estimated the cost and interest. The debits are large—the expenses small—the physician is tired of business ; or is sick ; or is old, and wishes to retire, and will, in a year or two, make over to you by regular assignment, as transferable chattels, friends, reputation, practice, and whatever else may thereto pertain. A rich and abundant harvest, yellow with golden leaves, waves in the distance. But, alas ! it too often happens, that the reaper who gathers in autumn, from fields which others have ploughed and sown, is rewarded for all his toil by withered grains, or a vicious crop of tares ! The accounts may prove uncollectable ; the office expenses may increase ; the physician himself may soon have rested his weary limbs, recovered his shattered health, renewed his age—and may again push into practice with all the vigor and ardor of youth ; and you may find yourself in the disagreeable dilemma of leaving the partnership, and relinquishing the bonus, or of serving the stipulated term, and in the end losing your reputation and half your earnings.

I speak to you, gentlemen, upon this subject, not as one who has suffered experience, but as an *observer* ; and I do no injustice to any, and only my bounden duty to you, when I say, these are the frequent—nay, general effects and results of partnerships in our profession. I recommend you, therefore, not to embark upon such leaky boards. It is not arrogance in us, who have been made, by authority, the examiners of your own vessels, to say that, having given you, since you have been at this anchorage, a thorough overhauling and inspection, we are satisfied that your rigging is complete—your decks fully furnished, manned and provisioned—and that your present armament is full preparation for your intended service. With papers duly made out and sealed, we have given you sailing orders, and your commission gives you no superior officer. Run up the colors and stand by !—and, when hailed or boarded by other vessels, your credentials from this port, known and recognized in all American seas, will be ample evidence that you are no piratical craft, sailing for plunder ; but humanely sent as a “wrecker,” to rescue those who have fallen upon rocky coasts, and are ready to perish.

In relation to fees, indulge me a moment. I do not propose to direct you in regard to the general rate of charges among the rich, or those who are able to pay. You will in this be governed by the size and wealth of the place in which you reside, the expense of living, and the custom of other practitioners. You will avoid, on the one hand, extortion, and, on the other, the equally dishonest and humiliating practice of underbidding. It is not in the liberal professions as in trades, where low charges are recognized as a fair and honorable competition; and the physician who invites custom by refusing a reasonable compensation, gains the contempt of the profession, and loses the respect of the people. But it is in relation to your professional *charities* that I would counsel you. In these be liberal. Remember, "the poor you have always with you;" and the poor generally call upon young practitioners, because, doubtless, they expect from them more prompt attention and greater charities. They employ those with whom their credit is unimpaired. This is a subterfuge to which this unfortunate class, in all their transactions, frequently resort: but, surely, when it is to obtain medical counsel, who can blame them? The parent looks upon his suffering child, and with that agonizing anxiety which belongs alike to the humble tenants of the hovel and the lordly occupants of the palace, casts about for aid. The physician he has once employed, and in whom he has yet most confidence, has richer and more profitable patients, and he doubts whether his call would not meet a cold refusal. You are employed then as a second or *last* resort; but the duty upon you is none the less imperative. If the applicant was rich, you might plead other engagements, and send him away; for his money can *purchase* aid elsewhere. But the poor man, driven from your door, is in despair, and seeks his family with a heavy heart, to tell them his success. To him it is the bitterest cup of all, that his poverty deprives his beloved child of the necessary aid.

It would have paid you well for a night of fatigue and watchfulness, to have visited that wretched hovel and witnessed their distress—to have received their cordial welcome, and heard their warm parting benediction. Yes! I would rather receive the simple prayer of gratitude, at the poor man's door, than all the gold which the rich man grudgingly pays, as for a tradesman's wares.

Clergymen, also, are, by common consent and for good reasons, entitled to your gratuitous services. Engaged in a worthy and laborious profession, the very nature of whose duties requires the most diligent and intense mental application, their constitutions are early impaired, and their demands for medical aid are frequent. In this country, the pay of the clergy is neither equal to the rank of their calling, their labor, talents or necessities; and in rendering your services to them gratuitously, you only meet their just demands for time employed and health sacrificed for the advancement of the social and moral interests of the common family of man.

[We must defer other extracts from this excellent address till next week.]

---

 THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.
 

---

 MARCH 8, 1843.
 

---

*Neurology.*—The following letter from several respectable physicians of the City of Albany, has an insertion, because we wish to give every medical interest an opportunity of being heard in this Journal. It will not have the effect, however, we think, of changing the views of a single medical man, of professional standing, in the City of Boston. The city has literally been sacked by a troop of roving, vagabond, mountebank animal magnetizers, whose impositions are sickening to men of common sense. But if Dr. Buchanan, who is now among us, and ready to exhibit the claims of neurology, positively demonstrates a fact that illustrates a newly discovered law in the animal economy, or shows that physiologists are in an error in regard to some old one, he will be countenanced and sustained by gentlemen who can discriminate between truth and falsehood—assertion and proof. The report referred to in the letter, was received too late to be made use of this week.

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

SIR,—The undersigned, physicians of the City of Albany, beg leave respectfully to request the insertion in your pages of the accompanying report of experiments made recently in our city. As sciences are formed by the aggregation of facts, we cannot perceive why any portion of the medical profession, claiming either intelligence or liberality of thought, should be indifferent or averse to acquiring a knowledge of those *facts* which have been brought to light by the discoveries of Dr. Buchanan.

It is universally conceded that new theories in medicine are justly obnoxious to suspicion, and the great body of the profession are rightly inclined to practical and experimental knowledge. We think, therefore, that no small gratitude is due to one who furnishes us with *new facts* upon which to reason, and appeals to the experimental test. We appeal to the brethren of the profession generally, to show their love of true science by examining the facts of Dr. Buchanan's system, and becoming sufficiently acquainted with it to verify his principles by their own experiments. We would not make this appeal in behalf of any *theory*, however ingenious or important; we appeal in behalf of neurology, because it is a science of facts, and we have witnessed the facts ourselves. We speak with certainty, because the facts which we have witnessed are of the most unequivocal character.

We hope that the science of neurology, coming from one so eminently worthy of the public confidence as Dr. Buchanan, will not fail to be taken in hand by the medical profession, and cultivated as an important department of medical science.

Albany, Feb. 23, 1843.

C. C. YATES,  
W. A. HAMILTON,  
C. H. PAYNE,  
R. H. THOMPSON.

---

*McLean Asylum for the Insane.*—Many subjects, having a prior claim, have hitherto prevented us from noticing Dr. Bell's Annual Report of this

Institution; and even now, no extracts can be made from it without essentially interfering with articles already in type. But a document of such value will not be lost sight of till an opportunity occurs of copying some of its prominent parts.

Last year we alluded to Dr. Bell's new style of reporting, which was acceptable, although of a novel character; inasmuch as a departure was made from the usual method of multiplying elaborate tabular statements, enough to bewilder the brain of a professor of mathematics. And for bestowing proper commendation upon this plan, we received a gentle castigation from an individual who will recognize himself as the figurante in this remark. He entertained an opinion that it was disrespectful towards the medical superintendents of other insane establishments, whose reports were issued on the good old system. No such thing, however, was ever intended. If they would follow Dr. Bell's improvement, for such it is recognized, they would ultimately be as much pleased as the public.

The report of the past year, the twenty-fifth in the history of the McLean Asylum, exhibits the institution in excellent condition, and doing as much towards bettering the condition of the insane as any other in America. There is quietness within it, efficiency and boldness in carrying out any and every plan that promises to increase the facilities of the asylum, or permanently benefit the unfortunate beings who are placed there. Yet there is no confusion; no bustling appeals to the sympathies of the community; no boastings of extraordinary success, and no repinings. Dr. Bell enjoys the confidence of the public, and exerts himself to the utmost in the sphere where Providence has placed him. He has our best wishes for his future success in sustaining the high character of the McLean Asylum.

---

*Human Teeth and Dental Surgery.\**—Modesty is so much of a virtue in these degenerate days of authorship, that when we light upon one who makes no vulgar pretensions, it is really refreshing. Dr. Kelly, of Newburyport, Mass., has written a popular treatise on the teeth, and the operations of dentistry, which is for the people, and not expressly for the craft, to read. We discover in it practical common sense, properly timed, and adapted to minds of all orders. The object is to teach the reader the method of preserving his teeth, of assisting nature in her efforts to provide new ones, and to explain those processes of art by which defective organs have their existence eked out to a comfortable old age. Such books are needed: they diffuse correct knowledge; overcome long established errors and stubborn prejudices; and, like guide posts at public crossings, point out the direct course. We do not perceive that Dr. Kelly claims any new discoveries in the department of which he may yet become a conspicuous ornament. His chapters are neither over-done, nor, as Sir Francis Smith said of the egg puzzle, *under-done*, but extremely well done. He therefore deserves the commendation of the press, and the patronage of those who hold to the doctrine that merit deserves patronage.

---

*New Orleans Charity Hospital.*—This is an actively conducted institution. During the past year, 4404 patients were received, of whom 3449

---

\* A Popular Treatise on the Human Teeth and Dental Surgery, &c. &c. By E. G. Kelly, M.D., Member of the American Society of Dental Surgeons, and M. M. S. Boston: James Munroe and Company. Newburyport: A. A. Call. 1843. Pp. 193.

were from foreign countries. As the income falls short of the expenditures, the Board of Administrators propose to the legislature to lay a capitation tax, for the maintenance of the hospital, of \$2 per head on all steerage passengers from foreign ports; deck and steerage passengers from domestic ports, 50 cents; cabin passengers from foreign ports, \$3; and passengers coastwise, from the States, \$1.

It is proper to tax foreigners, since they are and would be principally the consumers of the money that might be raised on themselves; but to put the port revenue on our own people would be an unwise scheme, and certainly an unpopular one. The expenses of the hospital in 1842 were \$34,651 96. A house-surgeon out of this, received a salary of \$1200; four visiting physicians, \$300 each; apothecary, \$720; medicine bill, \$3,071 88; and burial expenses, \$1,387 00. The income of the establishment was \$25,733 80 the last year, and it is apparent, therefore, that a revenue must be raised from some source at once. Without the charity, we know not where the sick stranger in New Orleans could be provided for. From the commencement of the hospital, to the present day, it has been under the administration of excellent medical men, who have become eminently distinguished for their professional attainments.

In the list of diseases treated in 1842, it is stated that there were 425 cases of yellow fever admitted; 214 were discharged, and 211 died, mania a potu, 122; syphilis, 133; ulcers, 236; incised wounds, 30; lacerated wounds, 171; intermittent fever, 1,101, of whom 1019 were discharged. Fractures of the arm, 11; of the leg, 15; skull, 6; thigh, 7; clavicle, 5; &c. On the whole, the report is very satisfactory; and the hospital is highly creditable to the citizens of New Orleans.

---

*Practice of Physic and Surgery in the State of New York.*—From year to year, there has been a struggle going on in the State of New York, between the irregular and regular practitioners, in regard to their rights, as citizens and physicians, which is likely to be settled by a modification of the law. While the one class had all the aid and countenance of the civil authority in collecting their debts, the other could only depend on the willingness of their patrons for remuneration. It was unquestionably right and proper that things should have remained so, since no service, as a general rule, worth compensation, can be rendered by mere pretenders to medical skill. However, this was a kind of persecution, in the estimation of a great class of sympathizers, who put their shoulders to the wheel, with a view to doing as they would be done by—that is, to be paid for their labor, whether it was worth anything or not.

Formerly, in Massachusetts, the legal condition of an irregular practitioner was precisely what it is in New York; but the democratic principle that the laborer is worthy of his hire, prevailed some years ago, so that a hand-cartman can now claim a fee for extracting a splinter from a neighbor's toe, and collect the debt as readily as any practitioner of surgery in the Commonwealth. Since the Legislature have so kindly opened the doors, a throng of pseudo-medical pretenders have sprung into existence, ready to grapple with any disease in the nomenclature of death's doings. Boston is particularly distinguished for being the undisturbed residence of a host of unblushing quacks of every order and degree, who are thriving charmingly under the legal protection of the ancient com-

monwealth. We have a knowledge of persons who probably never read a medical treatise in their lives, and who were bred to mechanical pursuits, who are now much in vogue with certain patrons of genius, for their elevated attainments in medicine. In Chambers street, near the Massachusetts General Hospital, a barber, long known as such, has raised a new sign on his shop-door, calling himself *doctor*. The pole is down, of course, and the barber is going on swimmingly as a general medical practitioner.

The following is the act proposed in the Legislature of New York, which will probably become a law; if not during the present session, at no very remote period.

SECTION 1. Any person residing within this State, and being a citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, assuming to practise physic and surgery, or either, may, after the passage of this act, be entitled to receive for such service a fair compensation, and may sue and collect the same in any court having jurisdiction of like claims for other services provided; said person shall file and deposit in the clerk's office of the county in which such person resides and designs to practise, a certificate of such intention, setting forth the school of medicine to which such person belongs, and system upon which he designs to practise. But nothing contained shall be construed to exempt any person refusing or neglecting to comply with the provisions of this act, from the full force and penalties of section 25, Title 7, Chapter 14, of the first Part of the second edition of the Revised Statutes.

§ 2. Any person thus assuming to practise physic and surgery, or either, shall be liable for mal-practice in a suit at law, on the prosecution of any person aggrieved, in any court of this State having cognizance thereof, and be subject to the same pains and penalties as are now provided by existing statutes.

§ 3. So much of the Revised Statutes as is inconsistent with the provisions of this act, is hereby repealed.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

*Physiology of Menstruation.*—Dr. Raciborski has made known some important discoveries lately made by him in regard to menstruation and conception in the human female. At each menstrual period, he states, one of the Graafian vesicles swells and projects from the surface of the ovary; at the end of the menstrual flow it usually escapes, by the rupture of its sac, without male connection or other sexual excitement. When thus escaped, the vesicle has anatomical characters precisely like those of the corpus luteum supposed to be formed after conception. This spontaneous detachment of the ovum at the end of the menstrual epoch, naturally renders that period the most favorable for impregnation, and conception is most commonly referred by pregnant women to that time. Dr. R. states, that of 15 women who were able to specify the circumstances of menstruation and coition accurately, 5 evidently conceived from two to four days previous to the time when the catamenia was due; 7, two or three days after menstruation; 2, at the actual period of the catamenia; and in only 1 so long as ten days after the latter had disappeared. Similar phenomena are observed among animals during their rutting season—the ovarian vesicles being found to increase gradually in size during the intervals between the rutting epochs, and to escape altogether at those times without congress of the male.



*Medical Miscellany.*—A child was born in Wilmington, Del., a short time since, without arms or nose. Fingers were attached to the shoulders.—A child born in Baltimore, Sabbath before last, had two heads. It lived but a few hours, say the papers.—Dr. Dickinson, of Natchez, by draining a ravine, has obtained the skeleton of an animal that is described as being very wonderful. There were no cavities for the lodgement of the organs of vision, says the Free Trader, from which the account is taken.—Drs. Barber and Reynolds, of Gloucester, Mass., have taken an active and praiseworthy part in a late temperance convention, in that town.—Late accounts speak of the ravages of erysipelas in Orleans and Caledonia counties, in the northern part of Vermont. At Orleans there were 70 cases week before last. At North Danville the mortality has been greater than at any other place.—Smallpox has appeared at Mansfield, Mass.—In the medical department of Kemper University, Mo., there are 75 students, and in the preparatory course of instruction 35. It is regarded, therefore, as being eminently a successful school of medicine, considering its age and vast distance into the far West.—The medical lectures closed in Boston on Monday last.—Lectures commenced at the Vermont Medical College, and at the Castleton Medical College, both in Vermont, on Thursday last, under flattering auspices.—Dr. Buchanan, of Louisville, Ky., distinguished for his perseverance in diffusing a knowledge of what some believe to be important discoveries, denominated the science of neurology, arrived in Boston last week. A committee who attended his lectures in Albany on neurology, contradict the story that has had extensive currency, about a medical student who was represented to have deceived the doctor in the manner stated.—Dr. J. K. Mitchell, of Philadelphia, is about to give to the world the results of his experiments and observations on animal magnetism, which have been carried forward for the last five years in an examination of over one hundred cases, embodying many astonishing facts, that result in establishing a theory showing its moral and medical relations. It will be published by Lea & Blanchard.—Dr. Rob't Clow, of Clermont, Columbia county, N. Y., and his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Clow, were poisoned, recently, by a dose of strychnine being administered to them by the doctor's sister, in mistake for morphine. The doctor leaves behind him, to deplore his lamentable death, a wife and two infant children.—Dr. Vanzant, of St. Louis, Mo., is represented to have restored a blind boy to sight by the extraction of two teeth!—A report of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the year 1842, has been published. The particulars will be given hereafter.—Dr. Fox, Assistant Physician of the McLean Asylum for the Insane, at Somerville, near Boston, is about resigning his office.—The disease called *black tongue* has broken out at New Madrid county, Missouri.

---

**MARRIED.**—At Hartford, Conn., A. L. Spaulding, M.D., of Enfield, to Mrs. S. H. Field.

---

**DIED.**—In Upperville, Va., 12th ult., Dr. Charles J. Perkins, son of Dr. L. Perkins, of Farmington, Me., 24. Disease supposed to have been apoplexy.—In Templeton, Mass., Dr. Josiah Howe, 73.

---

Number of deaths in Boston, for the week ending March 4, 41.—Males, 16; Females, 25. Stillborn, 4. Of consumption, 13—inflammation of the lungs, 1—erysipelas, 2—lung fever, 6—accidental, 1—old age, 3—child-bed, 1—smallpox, 2—marasmus, 1—infantile, 3—cancer in the stomach, 1—decline, 1—inflammation of the bowels, 1—disease of the brain, 1—bronchitis, 1—typhous fever, 1—convulsions, 1—dropsy, 1.

Under 5 years, 11—between 5 and 20 years, 6—between 20 and 60 years, 21—over 60 years, 3.

*Newly-remarked Sign of Bony Consolidation after Fracture.*—Dr. Guenther, of Hayna, in Saxony, relates the following case:—A young man fractured his right leg (both tibia and fibula?). Being of an observant turn, he soon noticed that while the nails on the left foot grew as usual, those on the right foot continued to maintain the same length, a fact which he had full means of verifying, as he had cut the nails on both feet immediately before his accident. Accurate observations on the state of the nails now continued to be made daily; and on the fiftieth day from the time of the fracture the nail on the little toe of the right foot began to increase in length; at which period, also, other signs of union in the broken bones first became evident. The nails on the other small toes began successively to resume their growth, and lastly the nail of the great toe. Since the occurrence of this case, M. Guenther has witnessed similar phenomena in others, and he has laid it down as a rule in practice that the elongation of the nails is a definite sign of union between the ends of bones of the extremities previously fractured.—*Medicinische Zeitung.*

*Contamination of the Fetus.*—At a recent meeting of the Westminster Medical Society, Mr. H. J. Johnson related the case of a woman who, immediately after marriage, contracted syphilis, was affected with secondary symptoms, took mercury, and got, apparently, quite well. She had, during the next ensuing years, several children, all small, but healthy, until five or six weeks after birth, when they became affected with an eruption similar to lepra or psoriasis, and died. It would appear in this case that the ovaria had been diseased originally, and that the disease had contaminated the ova in them.—*Lon. Lancet.*

*Spontaneous Cure of an Abscess.*—A singular case is on record of a pulmonary abscess curing itself by a spontaneous discharge through a leech-bite. The subject was a young female, married, though only fourteen years of age, and who was attacked by a cough, attended with lancinating pains between the fourth and sixth ribs on one side, for which leeches were applied over the seat of the pain. The symptoms, however, aggravated, and a good deal of fever supervened; while one of the leech-bites inflamed, assumed a pustulous aspect, and soon afterwards broke, and gave egress to about two ounces of pus. The discharge of this matter continued at intervals, chiefly during deep inspirations and fits of coughing, for three days, when it began to diminish, and the patient not long afterwards was fully convalescent.—*L'Experience.*

*The relative Frequency of Tubercles in various Organs.* By Dr. ENGEL, of Vienna.—The proportional frequency of the occurrence of tubercle in the lungs to that of tubercle in the cerebral membranes, the pleura, liver, and spleen, is as 18 to 1; to that of tubercle in the brain and kidney as 18 to 2; and that of tubercle in the peritoneum and intestines as 18 to 3. This is the more remarkable, when compared with the frequency of cancer in the same organs. Cancer of the lungs occurs, in proportion to cancer of the liver, as 18 to 48; to cancer of the stomach as 18 to 42; to cancer of the intestines and kidneys as 18 to 12; and to cancer of the brain, spleen, peritoneum and uterus, as 18 to 18. The frequency of tubercle in the lungs is to that of all other diseases of those organs as 2 to 3.—*Br. & For. Med. Review.*